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FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5549  
INFO RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 5408  
BT  
~~UNCLAS~~ HELSINKI 02072

DEPARTMENT FOR CA/OCS/EMR AND EUR/SOV

E.O. 12356 N/A

TAGS: CASC (SIPPLE, REGINA)

SUBJECT: EXPULSION OF AMCIT FROM USSR

1. MS. REGINA SIPPLE, BORN OCTOBER 29, 1952 IN COLORADO, PPT#: 050007432 ISSUED SAN FRANCISCO MAY 20, 1983, CALLED AT EMBASSY ON MAY 13 TO REPORT THAT SHE HAD BEEN DENIED ENTRY TO THE SOVIET UNION.

2. MS. SIPPLE ARRIVED MOSCOW ON MAY 12 WITH HER TOUR GROUP. SHE SAYS THAT UPON SEARCHING HER LUGGAGE SOVIET CUSTOMS OFFICIALS DISCOVERED TAPED CHILDRENS'S MUSIC ACCOMPANYING SMALL BOOKLETS. THE BOOKLETS CONTAINED THE "SERMON ON THE MOUNT" PRINTED IN ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN ON FACING PAGES. SHE WAS ACCUSED OF ATTEMPTING TO SMUGGLE BANNED LITERATURE INTO THE USSR AND THE MATERIAL WAS CONFISCATED.

3. AFTER BEING DETAINED OVERNIGHT SHE WAS REQUIRED TO RETURN TO HELSINKI. SHE CAME DIRECTLY FROM AIRPORT TO EMBASSY. WE HAVE ARRANGED HOTEL ACCOMMODATION FOR HER AT THE RED CROSS (PUNAINEN RISTI) HOTEL, TEHTAANKATU 1, TELEPHONE 176811. SHE IS ATTEMPTING TO CHANGE AIRLINE TICKETS FOR RETURN TO U.S. AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

4. MS. SIPPLE HAS ASKED THAT HER PARENTS BE NOTIFIED THAT SHE IS WELL AND THERE IS NO CAUSE FOR CONCERN FOR HER WELFARE. PARENTS ARE MR. AND MRS. CHARLES SPENCER, 10971 COVENTRY PLACE, SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA, TELEPHONE 714 832 6907. COOPER  
END OF MESSAGE

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TO RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE 2341

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1952

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C O N F I D E N T I A L L E N I N G R A D 02000

DEPT FOR EUR/DOV

E.D. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: ASEC, PREL, UR

SUBJECT: MARINE SECURITY GUARD ASSAULTED AND DETAINED

REFS: (A) LENINGRAD 1834, (B) LENINGRAD 1667

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: CONSULATE GENERAL MARINE SECURITY GUARD (MSG), SGT. RONALD CAMPBELL, WAS ASSAULTED AT APPROXIMATELY 3:15 A.M. ON AUGUST 2 BY THREE SOVIET MEN IN PLAIN CLOTHES WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF FOUR SOVIET MILITIA OFFICERS. SGT. CAMPBELL HAD FOLLOWED ON FOOT A SUSPICIOUS AUTOMOBILE THAT HAD BEEN CIRCLING BY THE CONSULATE GENERAL. WHEN HE WAS ABOUT TWO BLOCKS FROM THE CONSULATE GENERAL, A MILITIA CAR APPROACHED FROM BEHIND WHILE THE MEN IN THE OTHER CAR RAN TOWARDS HIM. THE MILITIAMEN GRABBED SGT. CAMPBELL AND THE MEN IN PLAIN CLOTHES REPEATEDLY HIT AND KICKED HIM WHILE HE WAS BEING HELD. AFTER ABOUT ONE MINUTE, THE MILITIA PUT SGT. CAMPBELL IN THEIR VEHICLE AS HE WAS STILL BEING ASSAULTED BY THE OTHER MEN. THE ENTIRE TIME A PHOTOGRAPHER TOOK PICTURES OF THE INCIDENT. SGT. CAMPBELL DOES NOT REQUIRE HOSPITALIZATION.

3. AFTER THE ASSAULT THE MILITIA TOOK SGT. CAMPBELL TO A NEAR-BY MILITIA STATION. AT 5:30 A.M. ACTING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL OFFICER HARMS WAS CALLED BY THE ACTING CHIEF OF THE DIPLOMATIC AGENCY, M.A. VYBORNOV. VYBORNOV REQUESTED THAT HARMS COME TO THE MILITIA STATION TO PICK UP SGT. CAMPBELL, WHO, ALTHOUGH IDENTIFIED BY VYBORNOV, DID NOT HAVE HIS DIPLOMATIC IDENTIFICATION CARD. AT THE MILITIA STATION, VYBORNOV SAID THAT SGT. CAMPBELL WAS PICKED UP BY THE MILITIA BECAUSE HE WAS SEEN THROWING A ROCK AT A PASSING CAR ON LITEYNNY PROSPEKT. VYBORNOV CLAIMED SGT. CAMPBELL WAS EXTREMELY DRUNK AND WAS YELLING INSULTING WORDS AT THE TIME. HAVING INTERVIEWED SGT. CAMPBELL AND OTHER MSG'S WHO WERE AWARE OF PARTS OF THE INCIDENT, THE CONSUL GENERAL INTENDS TO LODGE A STRONG PROTEST WITH THE DIPLOMATIC AGENCY AND REQUESTS THAT SIMILAR PROTESTS BE MADE IN MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON AT HIGH LEVELS. END SUMMARY.

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4. ON AUGUST 2 AT APPROXIMATELY 0300, CONSULATE GENERAL MARINE SECURITY GUARD (MSG), SGT. RONALD CAMPBELL WAS ASSAULTED NEAR THE CONSULATE GENERAL BY THREE SOVIET MEN IN PLAIN CLOTHES WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF FOUR MILITIAMEN. PARAGRAPHS 5 THROUGH 8 BELOW CONTAIN THE FACTS OF THE INCIDENT AS RELATED BY SGT. CAMPBELL TO RSO JACKSON.

5. SGT CAMPBELL WORKED THE 1600-2400 SHIFT ON AUGUST 1ST. HE WAS RELIEVED BY CPL. HOFFMAN AT 2400 HRS. AT APPROXIMATELY 0005 HE WENT TO HIS ROOM AND CHANGED HIS CLOTHES. AT 0015 HE WENT TO THE MARINE HOUSE BAR AREA TO RECORD SOME MUSIC (ALSO PRESENT WERE CPL. PITTMAN AND SGT. FRISINA). AT APPROXIMATELY 0115 HE WENT TO THE MARINE HOUSE TELEVISION ROOM TO WATCH TV. CPL. PITTMAN WAS ALSO PRESENT; SGT. FRISINA HAD GONE TO BED AT APPROXIMATELY 0100. AT APPROXIMATELY 0230 SGT. CAMPBELL WENT FOR A WALK IN THE LOCAL AREA FOR 20 MINUTES. UPON RETURNING TO THE CONSULATE GENERAL, HE STOPPED TO TALK WITH SGT. JONES AT THE TEMPORARY MSG POST IN FRONT OF THE BUILDING. SGT. JONES INFORMED HIM THAT A BEIGE VEHICLE HAD BEEN CIRCLING THE AREA AT LEAST THREE TIMES. SHORTLY THEREAFTER THE BEIGE VEHICLE APPEARED AGAIN AND STOPPED IN FRONT OF THE CONSULATE GENERAL. THE VEHICLE HAD THREE, POSSIBLY FOUR, MALE PASSENGERS DRESSED IN SUITS AND TIES. SGT. CAMPBELL APPROACHED THE VEHICLE AND ASKED THEM IF SOMETHING WAS WRONG AND IF HE COULD HELP THEM. HE DID THIS IN AN ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE IF THERE WAS A PROBLEM AS SUCH ACTIVITIES ARE NOT NORMAL. THE PERSONS INSIDE THE VEHICLE DID NOT SPEAK ENGLISH AND, UPON BEING ASKED WHAT WAS WRONG, STATED IN RUSSIAN THAT THEY DID NOT UNDERSTAND. THE VEHICLE THEN DROVE WEST APPROXIMATELY 100 YARDS AND SLOWED TO A STOP. SGT. CAMPBELL ATTEMPTED TO APPROACH THE VEHICLE IN AN EFFORT TO LET THEM KNOW HIS CONCERN ABOUT THEM STOPPING IN FRONT OF THE CONSULATE GENERAL. BEFORE HE REACHED THE VEHICLE THEY DROVE AN ADDITIONAL 400-500 YARDS DOWNTOWN TO THE CORNER OF LITEYNNY PROSPEKT AND PETRA LAVROVA. AT THIS TIME THE PERSONS INSIDE THE VEHICLE MOTIONED TO SGT. CAMPBELL TO FOLLOW THEM BY WAVING THEIR ARMS OUT OF THE CAR WINDOWS (BOTH SIDES). SGT. CAMPBELL ATTEMPTED TO APPROACH THE VEHICLE, BUT WHEN HE WAS WITHIN 100 YARDS OF IT, THE VEHICLE DROVE AROUND THE CORNER AND DISAPPEARED FROM HIS SIGHT.

6. BECOMING CURIOUS, SGT. CAMPBELL RAN DOWN TO THE CORNER TO SEE WHAT WAS HAPPENING. UPON REACHING THE CORNER HE

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NOTICED THE CAR AGAIN APPROXIMATELY 100 YARDS FURTHER DOWN LITEYNNY. THE PEOPLE INSIDE THE VEHICLE AGAIN MOTIONED FOR SGT. CAMPBELL TO FOLLOW THEM. AT THIS TIME HE OBSERVED A MILITIA VEHICLE APPROACHING FROM THE NORTH ON LITEYNNY. THE MILITIA VEHICLE SLOWED DOWN UPON SEEING SGT. CAMPBELL; AT THE SAME TIME THE BEIGE VEHICLE BACKED UP ABOUT 5 FEET. WHILE SGT. CAMPBELL WAS WATCHING THE CAR BACK UP, THE MILITIA VEHICLE MADE A U-TURN AND CAME UP BEHIND HIM. BEFORE THE MILITIA VEHICLE CAME ALONG SIDE, THREE MEN GOT OUT OF THE BEIGE VEHICLE AND RAN TOWARD SGT. CAMPBELL YELLING SOMETHING. AT THE SAME TIME FOUR MILITIAMEN GOT OUT OF THEIR VEHICLE ALONG SIDE HIM. TWO OF THE MILITIAMEN GRABBED SGT. CAMPBELL, HOLDING HIS ARMS AT HIS SIDE. BY THIS TIME THE THREE MEN FROM THE BEIGE VEHICLE HAD ARRIVED ON THE SCENE. ALMOST IMMEDIATELY ONE OF THESE MEN HIT SGT. CAMPBELL IN THE LEFT EYE. AT THE

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SAME TIME THE MILITIAMEN FORCED HIS ARMS BEHIND HIS BACK AND BEGAN FORCING HIM TO THE BACK OF THE VEHICLE. ONE OF THE THREE MEN ALSO GRABBED HIS SHIRT, RIPPING IT WHILE FORCING HIM AGAINST THE VEHICLE. THE MILITIAMEN DID NOTHING TO ASSIST OTHER THAN TO HOLD HIM. HE WAS THROWN AGAINST THE BACK OF THE MILITIA VEHICLE WHERE HE WAS KICKED REPEATEDLY BY ALL THREE MEN IN SUITS. THE KICKS WERE DIRECTED MOSTLY AT HIS LEGS, GROIN AND BACK. THIS LASTED APPROXIMATELY 1 MINUTE. SGT. CAMPBELL RECALLS THAT A PHOTOGRAPHER WAS PRESENT AND TOOK FLASH PICTURES OF THE BEATING. HE WAS THEN FORCED INTO THE BACK OF THE MILITIA VEHICLE BY THE MILITIAMEN. THE OTHER THREE MEN WERE STILL HITTING AND KICKING AT HIM AT THIS TIME. WHILE SGT. CAMPBELL WAS SITTING IN THE BACK OF THE VEHICLE, THE MEN STILL ATTEMPTED TO HIT HIM, THROWING NUMEROUS BLOWS.

7. SGT. CAMPBELL WAS ASSISTED BY THE MILITIAMEN IN SHUTTING THE DOOR. HE WAS TRANSPORTED TO A LOCAL JAIL APPROXIMATELY THREE MINUTES TRAVELING TIME. WHILE EXITING THE MILITIA VEHICLE, THE PHOTOGRAPHER WAS AGAIN PRESENT TAKING NUMEROUS PICTURES. SGT. CAMPBELL ATTEMPTED TO HIDE HIS FACE AT THIS TIME. HE WAS PUT INTO A JAIL CELL OCCUPIED BY SIX SLEEPING SOVIETS. WHEN THE JAIL DOOR WAS CLOSED, SGT. CAMPBELL INFORMED THE MILITIA OFFICERS PRESENT IN RUSSIAN THAT HE WAS AN AMERICAN DIPLOMAT. HE ALSO GAVE THE CONGEN TELEPHONE NUMBER IN RUSSIAN. HE REPEATEDLY ASKED TO MAKE A TELEPHONE CALL AND WAS LAUGHED AT. THE ENTIRE TIME HE WAS HUMILIATED AND JEERED AT. THE PHOTOGRAPHER CONTINUALLY TOOK PICTURES WHILE HE WAS IN THE JAIL CELL. ALSO PRESENT AT THE JAIL WERE THE THREE MEN THAT BEAT HIM, WHO WERE LAUGHING AND POINTING AT HIM. AT SOME POINT, APPROXIMATELY TWO HOURS LATER, A MAN (PRESUMABLY M.A. VYBORNOV OF THE DIPLOMATIC AGENCY) APPEARED AT THE CELL AND ASKED IN ENGLISH IF HE WAS RON CAMPBELL. SGT. CAMPBELL HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED HIS NAME. THE MAN SAID "WE CALL MR. MAGEE" AND CAMPBELL RESPONDED "YES, PLEASE."

8. A SHORT TIME LATER HE WAS INFORMED THAT THEY COULD NOT REACH MR. MAGEE AND THAT MR. HARMS WAS ON HIS WAY. THE PHOTOGRAPHER AND THE MEN WHO BEAT SGT. CAMPBELL DISAPPEARED JUST PRIOR TO MR. HARMS' ARRIVAL. SGT. CAMPBELL WAS NEVER ASKED HIS NAME OR HIS DIPLOMATIC IDENTIFICATION DURING THE ENTIRE INCIDENT. BECAUSE HE HAD NOT INTENDED TO GO OUT ANYWHERE, SGT. CAMPBELL HAD LEFT HIS DIPLOMATIC KARTOCHKA IN HIS ROOM.

9. AT APPROXIMATELY 5:30 M.A. VYBORNOV, ACTING CHIEF OF THE DIPLOMATIC AGENCY, CALLED RONALD HARMS, ACTING DPO OF THE CONSULATE GENERAL. VYBORNOV SAID THAT SGT. CAMPBELL WAS AT THE MILITIA STATION ON CHEKOV STREET AND ASKED THAT HARMS COME GET HIM. VYBORNOV STATED THAT ALTHOUGH SGT. CAMPBELL DID NOT HAVE HIS DIPLOMATIC IDENTIFICATION CARD, HE WAS ABLE TO IDENTIFY HIM. HARMS REQUESTED THAT SGT. CAMPBELL BE RELEASED IMMEDIATELY, BUT VYBORNOV REFUSED INSISTING THAT HARMS COME TO THE STATION.

10. AT THE MILITIA STATION, VYBORNOV EXPLAINED THAT THEY HAD PICKED UP SGT. CAMPBELL AT 3:15 WHEN THEY SAW HIM THROW A ROCK AT A PASSING CAR ON LITEYNNY PROSPEKT. THE MILITIA CLAIMED THAT SGT. CAMPBELL WAS EXTREMELY DRUNK, AND WAS LOUDLY SHOUTING OBSCENITIES. REFERRING TO THE PRIOR ALLEGATIONS AGAINST SGT. CAMPBELL (REF A), VYBORNOV SAID, "THIS IS ANOTHER SERIOUS HOOLIGAN ACT BY CAMPBELL. WE WILL DISCUSS THIS FURTHER." CAMPBELL

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TAGS: ASEC, PREL, UR

SUBJECT: MARINE SECURITY GUARD ASSAULTED AND DETAINED

WAS THEN RELEASED AND RETURNED WITH HARMS TO THE CONSULATE GENERAL.

11. SUBSEQUENT INTERVIEWS OF SGT. FRISINA, SGT. JONES, AND CPL. PITTMAN ALL INDICATE THAT SGT. CAMPBELL WAS NOT UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL. CPL. PITTMAN ADVISED THAT SGT. CAMPBELL HAD HAD TWO MIXED DRINKS PRIOR TO HIS LEAVING THE CONSULATE. SGT. JONES SAID THAT HE TALKED WITH SGT. CAMPBELL JUST PRIOR TO THE INCIDENT AND THAT SGT. CAMPBELL WAS NOT THE LEAST BIT INTOXICATED AND WAS IN "COMPLETE CONTROL". ADDITIONALLY, RSO JACKSON AND ACTING DPO HARMS OBSERVED THAT SGT. CAMPBELL WAS COMPLETELY SOBER AT 0600.

12. CG'S COMMENT: I RECOMMEND THAT THE DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATELY PROTEST THIS INCIDENT IN STRONGEST TERMS AND AT VERY HIGH LEVELS. I WILL BE PROTESTING TO THE DIPLOMATIC AGENCY HERE AS SOON AS I CAN GET AN APPOINTMENT. THIS IS THE UGLIEST AND MOST SERIOUS INCIDENT TO OCCUR IN LENINGRAD DURING MY SIX MONTHS HERE, AND THERE WAS ABSOLUTELY NO JUSTIFICATION FOR IT. THE PHYSICAL BEATING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HUMILIATION TO WHICH SGT. CAMPBELL WAS SUBJECTED WAS APPALING BY ANY CIVILIZED STANDARD. THE LENINGRAD SECURITY ORGANS ARE THREATENING TO GET TOTALLY OUT OF HAND. WE ARE NOW TREATED TO THE SPECTACLE OF SOVIET "GOON" SQUADS CRUISING THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF THE CONSULATE GENERAL AT NIGHT, PRIMED TO PROVOKE FURTHER INCIDENTS AND PHYSICALLY HARM MEMBERS OF THE CONGEN STAFF WHO VENTURE OFF-COMPOUND. I AM SERIOUSLY WORRIED FOR THE SAFETY OF THE MARINE GUARD WHO WILL BE ON DUTY AT NIGHT OUTSIDE OUR BUILDING FOR THE NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS UNTIL THE FACADE AND ROOF REPAIR PROJECT IS COMPLETED.

13. THIS INCIDENT AND THE OTHER RECENT ALLEGATIONS AGAINST OUR MSG'S (REFS A AND B) INDICATE THAT THERE IS A CONCERTED CAMPAIGN TO HARASS AND DEMORALIZE THESE YOUNG MEN. SINCE THE SECOND ALLEGED INCIDENT (REF A), OUR MSG'S HAVE RECEIVED "LOCK-STEP" SURVEILLANCE EVERYWHERE THEY GO. ALL OF THIS HAS HAD A SERIOUS EFFECT ON THEIR MORALE. FOR THE PRESENT, WE HAVE DECIDED TO RESTRICT THE MARINES TO THE CONSULATE GENERAL COMPOUND TO PREVENT FURTHER HARASSMENT OR ASSAULTS, ALTHOUGH I DO NOT LIKE TO GIVE IN TO SOVIET PRESSURES IN THIS WAY. BUT IT IS NO LONGER SAFE FOR OUR MARINES TO LEAVE THE COMPOUND EVEN TO TAKE A SHORT WALK AROUND THE BLOCK. THE LENINGRAD AUTHORITIES HAVE GOT TO BE MADE TO RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF OUR DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL, AND TO STOP THESE CRUDE SET-UPS WHICH HAVE SEVERAL TIMES RESULTED IN PHYSICAL INJURY.

MAGEE

END OF MESSAGE

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ROME FOR EMBASSY VATICAN

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: SCUL, SHUM, UR, US  
SUBJECT: TASS ACCUSES AMERICAN CHAPLAIN IN MOSCOW OF  
- ANTI-SOVIET ACTIVITIES

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT).

2. SUMMARY: ON OCTOBER 11 TASS ENGLISH ACCUSED FORMER CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN TO THE MOSCOW FOREIGN COMMUNITY, EUGENE LA PLANTE, OF CONSPIRING WITH A LOCAL ROMAN CATHOLIC TO NURTURE AN ILLEGAL CONGREGATION OF BELIEVERS WHO WERE DIRECTED TO DISSEMINATE ANTI-SOVIET MATERIALS. THE ROMAN CATHOLIC INTERMEDIARY, VLADIMIR NIKIFOROV, WAS ARRESTED IN 1983 BUT CHARGES HAVE NOW BEEN DROPPED SINCE HE HAS ALLEGEDLY REPENTED. END SUMMARY.

3. ON OCTOBER 11 TASS ENGLISH ACCUSED THE FORMER CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN "AT THE U.S. EMBASSY IN MOSCOW" (IN FACT HE IS CHAPLAIN TO THE MOSCOW FOREIGN COMMUNITY) OF "SUPERVISION" OF AN UNREGISTERED CONGREGATION OF SOVIET BELIEVERS AND OF INSTRUCTING THEM "TO STUDY ANTI-SOVIET LITERATURE AND SPREAD IT AMONG MUSCOVITES, TO PREPARE TENDENTIOUS ARTICLES AND SEND THEM ABROAD". LA PLANTE WAS ALSO ACCUSED OF PROVIDING VLADIMIR NIKIFOROV, A LOCAL CATHOLIC CHARGED WITH SERVING AS LA PLANTE'S INTERMEDIARY TO THE CONGREGATION, WITH COPYING MACHINES, TAPE-RECORDERS AND MONEY. HE IS SAID TO HAVE VISITED NIKIFOROV'S APARTMENT AT LEAST ONCE A MONTH, "STRICTLY OBSERVING PROFESSIONAL RULES OF CONSPIRATION".

4. ACCORDING TO TASS, CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS WERE INITIATED AGAINST NIKIFOROV IN MARCH 1983 (LA PLANTE DEPARTED MOSCOW IN SUMMER 1983). INVESTIGATION REVEALED THAT HE HAD CONVERTED TO CATHOLICISM "UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF SOME WESTERN DIPLOMATS" IN MOSCOW. NIKIFOROV WAS REPORTEDLY REWARDED FOR HIS SUBSEQUENT EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH AN ILLEGAL "CATHOLIC CHURCH" BY BEING SECRETLY ORDAINED A VICAR-GENERAL BY THE VATICAN.

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5. THE TASS ARTICLE GOES ON TO STATE THAT CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS HAVE NOW BEEN STOPPED AS NIKIFOROV FULLY ADMITTED HIS GUILT AND PROMISED TO DESIST FROM HIS "UNCONSTITUTIONAL ACTIVITY". HE REPORTEDLY SAID THAT HE PROMISES NOT TO MAR RELATIONS BETWEEN BELIEVERS AND THE STATE IN THE FUTURE.

6. ACCORDING TO KESTON COLLEGE PUBLICATIONS, VLADIMIR NIKIFOROV, A ROMAN CATHOLIC, WAS DETAINED AT THE END OF FEBRUARY 1983 WHILE CARRYING 40 KILOGRAMS OF RELIGIOUS BOOKS IN RUSSIAN AND WESTERN LANGUAGES. NIKIFOROV WAS REPORTEDLY RELEASED AFTER TWO DAYS ONLY TO BE REARRESTED ON MAY 19, 1983. HE WAS CHARGED UNDER ARTICLE 142 OF THE RSFSR CRIMINAL CODE FOR PREPARING CHILDREN FOR CONFIRMATION.

7. EMBASSY IS REFUSING COMMENT IN RESPONSE TO FOREIGN PRESS INQUIRIES, WHICH HAVE BEEN FEW IN NUMBER.  
HARTMAN  
END OF MESSAGE

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DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/SOV AND CA/OCS; USIA LEMAITRE PASS  
 SUBSTANCE IREX

E. O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: CASC, UR, US(Cheron, George)

SUBJECT: HARASSMENT OF IREX PROFESSOR IN LENINGRAD

1. (LOU-ENTIRE TEXT)

2. SUMMARY: SUMMER IREX GRANTEE GEORGE CHERON WAS  
 PICKED UP BY PLAINCLOTHES MEN IN LENINGRAD JULY 28 AND  
 TAKEN TO POLICE STATION WHERE HE WAS QUESTIONED FOR TWO  
 HOURS. HE WAS DENIED THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONTACT THE  
 CONSULATE. HE WAS RELEASED AFTER SIGNING A STATEMENT.  
 END SUMMARY.

3. USC GEORGE CHERON, DPOB 8/23/52 CALIFORNIA BEARER  
 OF U.S. PASSPORT 030713390 ISSUED 12/23/83, VISITED  
 THE CONSULAR SECTION AUGUST 3 TO RELATE STORY OF HIS  
 JULY 28 DETENTION IN LENINGRAD. CHERON, WHO TEACHES  
 RUSSIAN AT CAL TECH ARRIVED IN THE SOVIET UNION UNDER  
 IREX SPONSORSHIP JUNE 26 AS PART OF SUMMER EXCHANGE OF  
 LANGUAGE TEACHERS. HE HAS SPENT HIS TIME IN MOSCOW WITH  
 THE EXCEPTION OF THREE DAYS IN LENINGRAD. HE HAS BEEN  
 MEETING WITH SCHOLARS AND POETS, BUT NOT, HE CLAIMS,  
 PERSONS WHO COULD BE REGARDED AS DISSIDENTS. IN LENINGRAD  
 CHERON HOPED TO MEET IVAN MARTINEF WHOM HE DESCRIBES AS  
 A WIDELY PUBLISHED SPECIALIST IN 18TH CENTURY RUSSIAN  
 LITERATURE. HE PHONED HIM FROM THE HOTEL AND SET UP A  
 MEETING FOR 3:00 P.M.

4. UPON ENTERING MARTINEF'S APARTMENT, CHERON NOTICED A  
 MAN LOITERING NEAR THE ELEVATOR. THIS INDIVIDUAL INQUIRED  
 WHOM CHERON WAS VISITING, WHEN HE GAVE MARTINEF'S NAME  
 CHERON SAID THREE OTHER MEN "APPEARED FROM THE WOODWORK"  
 AND SEIZED HIM. THEY TOOK HIS PASSPORT AND VISA AND  
 SHOVED HIM OUT THE DOOR AND INTO A PADDY WAGON WHICH HAD  
 APPEARED AT THE CURB. CHERON WAS DRIVEN OFF TO A POLICE  
 STATION ACCOMPANIED BY THE FOUR PLAINCLOTHES MEN.

5. AT THE STATION CHERON WAS QUESTIONED FOR APPROXIMATELY  
 TWO HOURS. HE ASKED TO CALL THE CONSULATE AND WAS TOLD

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IT WAS CLOSED. ON THREE SEPARATE OCCASIONS CHERON ASKED TO HAVE A CONSULAR OFFICER PRESENT DURING THE INTERVIEW. THE MILITIA OFFICER TOLD CHERON THIS WASN'T NECESSARY, CITING THE NEW LAW WHICH TOOK EFFECT JULY 1. HE SAID SOVIET LAW DOES NOT REQUIRE THAT FOREIGNERS BE GRANTED ACCESS TO THEIR CONSULAR REPRESENTATIVES UNLESS THEY ARE BEING DEPORTED. CHERON WAS ORDERED TO EMPTY HIS POCKETS AND BRIEF CASE AND WAS FRISKED. ALL HIS PAPERS WERE SUBJECT TO CLOSE SCRUTINY INCLUDING AN EMBASSY WIRELESS FILE WHICH MILITA LABELED TAMIZDAT. ACCORDING TO CHERON, WHO SPEAKS EXCELLENT RUSSIAN, THAT PARTICULAR ISSUE OF THE WIRELESS FILE CONTAINED AN ARTICLE ON SAKHAROV'S HUNGER STRIKE, WHICH HIS INTERVIEWERS COMMENTED ON EXTENSIVELY WITHOUT ONCE DENYING ITS VALIDITY. AS HE WAS BEING QUESTIONED ABOUT HIS DESIRE TO MEET WITH MARTINEF, CHERON ASKED WHETHER FOREIGNERS HAD THE RIGHT TO MEET WITH SOVIETS. THE MILITIA OFFICER ALLOWED THAT THEY DID, BUT SAID SUCH MEETINGS SHOULD TAKE PLACE AT SOVIET'S INSTITUTE I.E., PLACE OF WORK.

6. CHERON WAS RELEASED AFTER HE SIGNED A STATEMENT IN WHICH HE STATED HE HAD BEEN PLANNING A MEETING WITH MARTINEF, DESCRIBED AS A "SPECULATOR" AND IN WHICH HE APOLOGIZED FOR THE INCONVENIENCE HE HAD CAUSED TO THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES AS WELL AS TO HIMSELF. HE ALSO SIGNED A STATEMENT ACCOUNTING FOR THE VARIOUS SLIPS OF PAPER AND WIRELESS FILE WHICH HAD BEEN TAKEN FROM HIM.

7. EMBASSY PLANS TO PROTEST DENIAL OF CONSULAR ACCESS IN VIOLATION OF U.S.-USSR CONSULAR CONVENTION.

8. PRIVACY ACT WAIVER SIGNED.

HARTMAN

END OF MESSAGE

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 INFO RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE 3048  
 RUFHMK/AMEMBASSY HELSINKI IMMEDIATE 1442  
 BT  
 C O N F I D E N T I A L LENINGRAD 03052

DEPT FOR EUR/SOV  
 HELSINKI PASS TO CG MAGEE

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
 TAGS: SHUM, CASC, UR (SEGAL, SHEILA)(ARONCHICK, JUDITH)  
 SUBJECT: AMCITS DETAINED AFTER REFUSENIK VISIT

TWO AMERICAN CITIZENS, SHEILA SEGAL AND JUDITH ARONCHICK OF PHILADELPHIA, WERE DETAINED BY LENINGRAD POLICE YESTERDAY FOR ABOUT THREE HOURS. BOTH WOMEN WERE STOPPED BY PLAIN CLOTHES MILITIA AS THEY TRIED TO VISIT YAKOV GORODETSKY, A WELL-KNOWN LENINGRAD REFUSENIK. ALTHOUGH THE AMCITS ADVISED CONSULATE OFFICERS THAT THEY IMMEDIATELY ASKED TO BE ALLOWED TO CALL THE CONSULATE GENERAL, PERMISSION TO DO SO WAS NOT GRANTED UNTIL THEY HAD BEEN DETAINED FOR AN HOUR. TWO CONSULATE OFFICERS WENT TO THE POLICE STATION AND WERE PRESENT DURING QUESTIONING AND WHILE THE WOMEN'S HANDBAGS WERE SEARCHED. BOTH WERE THEN RELEASED WITHOUT BEING CHARGED AND WERE TO LEAVE MOSCOW AT 0900 LOCAL TIME TODAY (DEC. 19) ON KLM TO AMSTERDAM. DETAILS WILL BE PROVIDED IN A FOLLOW-UP CABLE WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER ACTION AND REQUEST FOR GUIDANCE.  
 ALLIN  
 END OF MESSAGE

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5843  
INFO RUFHLG/AMCONSUL LENINGRAD 0468  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 00118

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: KREC, UR

SUBJECT: EMBASSY RAISES HARASSMENT OF DIPLOMATS WITH MFA

REFS: A) 84 MOSCOW 16115, B) 84 LENINGRAD 3087,  
C) STATE 00534

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. WHILE MEETING WITH MFA USA DEPARTMENT DEPUTY CHIEF MIKOL'CHAK ON JANUARY 2, ACTING POLITICAL COUNSELOR BROUGHT UP TWO RECENT INCIDENTS OF HARASSMENT AND MISTREATMENT OF EMBASSY DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL. THE FIRST SUCH INCIDENT OCCURRED ON DECEMBER 19, WHEN EMBOFF PETTIT WAS GRABBED BY A PLAINCLOTHESMAN AND FORCIBLY EVICTED FROM A COURTHOUSE (REFTEL A). THE SECOND WAS THE FORCIBLE DETENTION OF ASSISTANT NAVAL ATTACHE LIPSCOMB AND HIS WIFE WHILE VISITING LENINGRAD ON DECEMBER 27 (REFTEL B). ACTING POLCOUNS EMPHASIZED THAT SUCH MANHANDLING AND DETENTION OF U.S. DIPLOMATS VIOLATED THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES ENJOYED BY DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL AND WERE COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE.

3. MIKOL'CHAK TOOK NOTE OF THE FIRST INCIDENT WITHOUT COMMENT. ON THE LIPSCOMB DETENTION, HE SAID THAT THOSE INITIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FPREHENSION WERE SIMPLY CONCERNED WORKERS WHOSE SUSPICION WAS NO DOUBT RAISED BY THE LIPSCOMBS' PROXIMITY TO OBJECTS OF MILITARY SIGNIFICANCE. MIKOL'CHAK WENT ON TO CLAIM THAT THE ASSISTANT NAVAL ATTACHE HAD BEEN SEEN PHOTOGRAPHING FORBIDDEN OBJECTS. ACTING POLCOUNS REJECTED THIS CONTENTION, POINTING OUT THAT LIPSCOMB HAD NOT USED HIS CAMERA AT ALL AT THE LOCATION IN QUESTION. HE WENT ON TO STRESS THAT, EVEN IF THERE HAD BEEN A VIOLATION OF SOVIET PHOTOGRAPHY REGULATIONS, MANHANDLING AND ATTEMPTED SEARCH OF DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL WAS TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE. ACTING POLCOUNS SAID THAT IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT THE PERPETRATORS OF THE DETENTION WERE FULLY AWARE OF THE LIPSCOMBS' IDENTITY AND DIPLOMATIC STATUS. MIKOL'CHAK REPLIED THAT THE CITIZENS WHO DETAINED THE LIPSCOMBS HAD NO WAY OF KNOWING THEIR IDENTITY AND ATTRIBUTED THEIR BEHAVIOR TO EXCESSIVE ZEAL.

KAMMAN

END OF MESSAGE

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INFO RUFHFT/AMCONSUL FRANKFURT 7415

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 02899

DEPT. FOR A/SY/OPS/FD/MSG AND EUR/SOV

FRANKFURT FOR ADS AND CO., CC "A"

LENINGRAD FOR PD AND RSO

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: ASSAULT ON MARINE CORPORAL JON HILDRETH

REF: KAMMAN-SIMONS TELCON MARCH 6, 1985

1. (U) SUMMARY: AT APPROXIMATELY 0230 HOURS ON MARCH 6, 1985, MARINE CORPORAL JON HILDRETH WAS BRUTALLY ASSAULTED BY TWO UNIDENTIFIED SOVIETS INSIDE THE INTOURIST HOTEL IN MOSCOW. ONLY AFTER SUFFERING A SERIES OF BLOWS WHICH RESULTED IN ABRASIONS TO HIS HEAD, NECK, LEFT ARM, AND CHEST, DID HILDRETH MANAGE TO BREAK FREE OF HIS ATTACKERS, ESCAPE THE HOTEL, AND RETURN TO THE EMBASSY. A SUBSEQUENT EMBASSY INVESTIGATION OF THIS INCIDENT COULD DETERMINE NO PLAUSIBLE REASON FOR THE ASSAULT. END SUMMARY.

2. (C) AT APPROXIMATELY 0230 HOURS, MARCH 6, 1985, MARINE CORPORAL JON HILDRETH, ON AUTHORIZED LIBERTY, WAS LEAVING THE INTOURIST HOTEL ALONE WHEN HE WAS CONFRONTED IN THE MAIN LOBBY OF THE HOTEL BY TWO (2) MALE SOVIETS ATTIRED IN CIVILIAN SUITS. SPEAKING IN FLUENT ENGLISH, THE SOVIETS INSISTED ON SPEAKING WITH HIM. WHEN HILDRETH EXPLAINED THAT HE HAD NO DESIRE TO TALK WITH THEM AND INTENDED ONLY TO RETURN TO THE AMERICAN EMBASSY, THEY AGAIN INSISTED THAT HE TALK WITH THEM, STATING "...THERE IS MUCH TO TALK ABOUT". AT THIS POINT, HILDRETH OBSERVED A PERSON IN THE LOBBY WHO HE BELIEVED TO BE A CANADIAN. (THIS WAS ROBERT J. SHALKA, COUNSELLOR AND CONSUL, CANADIAN EMBASSY.) IN AN EFFORT TO DRAW THIS PERSON'S ATTENTION TO HIS SITUATION, HILDRETH AGAIN CLEARLY STATED IN BOTH ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN HIS INTENTION TO IMMEDIATELY RETURN TO THE AMERICAN EMBASSY. ACCORDING TO ROBERT SHALKA, WHO WAS INTERVIEWED BY THE REPORTING OFFICER ON MARCH 7, HE OBSERVED HILDRETH BEING DETAINED BY THE TWO SOVIETS AND IN AN EFFORT TO ASSIST, MANAGED TO ASK HILDRETH IF HE WANTED SHALKA TO NOTIFY THE AMERICAN EMBASSY. HILDRETH REPLIED

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IN THE AFFIRMATIVE AND SHALKA IMMEDIATELY REPORTED HILDRETH'S SITUATION TO THE EMBASSY BY TELEPHONE. IN THE MEANTIME, THE SOVIETS FORCED HILDRETH INTO A SMALL ROOM ADJACENT TO THE LOBBY. THERE THEY PROCEEDED TO ASSAULT HIM WITH THEIR FISTS AND FEET. ONLY AFTER RECEIVING A NUMBER OF BLOWS WAS HE ABLE TO BREAK FREE OF HIS ATTACKERS AND IN FLEEING THE ROOM, MET SHALKA AT THE DOORWAY. HILDRETH APPEARED IN GREAT DISTRESS AND INTENT ON LEAVING THE HOTEL AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. SHALKA NOTED THAT UPON HIS ARRIVAL AT THE OFFICE DOORWAY, THE SOVIETS IMMEDIATELY RAISED THEIR HANDS AS IF TO INDICATE THEY HAD NOT TOUCHED HILDRETH. HOWEVER, SHALKA OBSERVED BLOOD DRIPPING FROM HILDRETH'S LIP. HILDRETH IMMEDIATELY TOOK ADVANTAGE OF SHALKA'S INTERVENTION AND RAN OUT OF THE HOTEL. HE SUBSEQUENTLY TOOK A TAXI BACK TO THE EMBASSY AND REPORTED THE INCIDENT.

3. (C) AFTER QUESTIONING BOTH CORPORAL HILDRETH AND THE TWO MARINES WHO WERE WITH HIM AT THE INTOURIST HOTEL UP TO AN HOUR PRIOR TO THE INCIDENT, AS WELL AS INTERVIEWING ROBERT SHALKA, WE BELIEVE THE ASSAULT WAS COMPLETELY UNPROVOKED BY HILDRETH. SHALKA ADVISED THAT HILDRETH WAS PERSONALLY SEEN BY HIM SITTING ALONE IN THE DOLLAR BAR OF THE HOTEL FOR APPROXIMATELY 30-45 MINUTES PRIOR TO THE INCIDENT IN QUESTION, AND THAT HILDRETH'S ACTIONS WERE ENTIRELY NON-PROVOCATIVE.

4. (C) WHILE THE PURPOSE OF THIS ATTACK IS NOT AS YET CLEAR TO US, WE INTEND NEVERTHELESS TO SUBMIT A STRONG PROTEST WITH THE MFA, STATING CLEARLY THAT WE BELIEVE THIS BRUTAL ATTACK WAS OFFICIALLY SANCTIONED AND THAT WE EXPECT SOVIET AUTHORITIES TO ENSURE THAT A REPETITION OF SUCH VIOLENCE NOT OCCUR IN THE FUTURE.

5. (U) A COPY OF OUR NOTE TO THE MFA WILL BE FORWARDED SEPTEL. HARTMAN  
END OF MESSAGE

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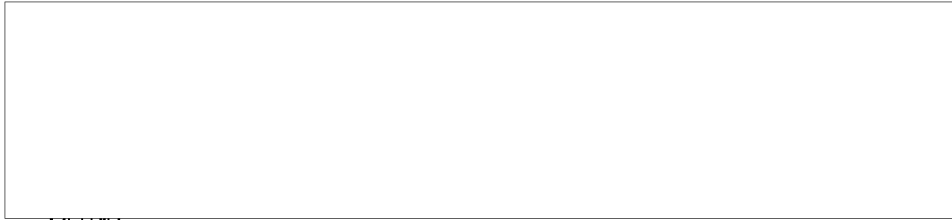
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 03170

DEPT. FOR A/SY/OPS/FO/MSG AND EUR/SOV  
 FRANKFURT FOR ADS  
 LENINGRAD FOR PD AND RSO

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, UR, US

SUBJECT: ASSAULT ON MARINE CORPORAL JON HILDRETH -- THE  
OFFICIAL SOVIET VERSION

REF: (A) MOSCOW 02899. (B) STATE 077413

1. SUMMARY: COLONEL NIKOLAI FOMENKO, CHIEF OF DIPLO-  
 MATIC MILITIA, REQUESTED AN URGENT MEETING WITH THE RSO  
 ON MARCH 7, 1985. AFTER SETTING THE PROPER STAGE BY  
 RELATING A NUMBER OF PREVIOUS INCIDENTS ALLEGEDLY  
 INVOLVING CORPORAL HILDRETH, FOMENKO AND HIS TWO AIDES  
 PROCEEDED TO DESCRIBE HILDRETH'S ACTIVITIES AT THE  
 INTOURIST HOTEL ON THE MORNING OF MARCH 6, 1985, SPECIFI-  
 CALLY ACCUSING HIM OF PHYSICALLY ASSAULTING AN ELDERLY  
 MALE EMPLOYEE OF THE HOTEL. WHEN QUESTIONED A SECOND  
 TIME BY THE RSO ON MARCH 8, HILDRETH STATED THAT AT  
 NO TIME DID HE ASSAULT AN EMPLOYEE OF THE INTOURIST  
 HOTEL AND ONCE AGAIN AFFIRMED THE ACCURACY OF HIS  
 ORIGINAL ACCOUNT OF HIS ACTIVITIES ON THE DATE IN  
 QUESTION (REF A). EMBASSY CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT  
 HILDRETH WAS THE SUBJECT OF A PREMEDITATED ASSAULT AND  
 THAT THE SOVIET COUNTER-CHARGE IS COMPLETELY SPURIOUS.  
 END SUMMARY.

2. EMBASSY SECURITY OFFICERS MET WITH COLONEL NIKOLAI  
 FOMENKO AND HIS AIDES AT HIS REQUEST AT 1730 HOURS,  
 MARCH 7, 1985. AFTER A BRIEF DISCUSSION OF SEVERAL  
 ON-GOING ROUTINE MATTERS, FOMENKO BEGAN RELATING A SERIES  
 OF INCIDENTS ALLEGEDLY INVOLVING QUESTIONABLE ACTIVITIES  
 ON THE PART OF CORPORAL JON HILDRETH. (IT WAS IMMEDIATELY  
 APPARENT THAT HIS INTENTION WAS TO ESTABLISH THE APPRO-  
 PRIATE CONTEXT IN WHICH TO RELATE THE INTOURIST HOTEL  
 INCIDENT; I.E., HILDRETH IS AN HABITUAL TROUBLEMAKER.)  
 FOMENKO BEGAN WITH AN INCIDENT WHICH OCCURRED IN MID-

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DECEMBER 1984 IN WHICH HILDRETH ALLEGEDLY ENTERED A MOSCOW HOTEL ATTIRED "IN HIS UNDERWEAR," AN ACT THE SOVIETS CONSIDERED INAPPROPRIATE. A SECOND INCIDENT MENTIONED INVOLVED MILITIA RESPONDING TO A NOISE COMPLAINT AT THE HOTEL ROOM OF TWO AMERICAN FEMALE STUDENTS. HILDRETH WAS IN THE ROOM WITH THE TWO STUDENTS AT THE TIME. A THIRD INCIDENT INVOLVED HILDRETH ARRIVING AT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN AN INEBRIATED STATE AND FAILING TO PAY THE TAXI DRIVER FOR THE RIDE. FINALLY, FOMENKO BROUGHT UP THE INCIDENT AT THE INTOURIST HOTEL (HE MIS-IDENTIFIED THE HOTEL AS THE COSMOS HOTEL) WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS A SERIOUS AFFAIR AS IT INVOLVED A PHYSICAL ASSAULT ON AN ELDERLY MAN EMPLOYED AT THE HOTEL. ACCORDING TO THE MILITIA REPORT, HILDRETH ENTERED THE RESTROOM NEAR THE LOBBY OF THE HOTEL IN THE EARLY MORNING HOURS OF MARCH 6, 1985, TURNED OFF THE LIGHTS, AND WHEN APPROACHED BY THE 64-YEAR-OLD MALE TOILET ATTENDANT, ASSAULTED THE ELDERLY MAN BY PUNCHING AND KICKING HIM. ONLY AFTER A SECOND SOVIET EMPLOYEE ARRIVED ON THE SCENE WAS HILDRETH OVERPOWERED, TAKEN INTO CUSTODY, AND BROUGHT TO THE MILITIA OFFICE LOCATED NEAR THE MAIN LOBBY. THERE, ACCORDING TO FOMENKO, HILDRETH ASSAULTED TWO UNIFORMED MILITIA OFFICERS WHO ATTEMPTED TO QUESTION HIM. HE SUBSEQUENTLY BROKE FREE OF THE MILITIA AND FLED THE HOTEL WHEN A CANADIAN CITIZEN, NOT IDENTIFIED BY THE MILITIA (BUT KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN ROBERT SHALKA) INTERVENED ON HILDRETH'S BEHALF. WHEN SPECIFICALLY ASKED BY THE REPORTING OFFICER WHY THE MILITIA OFFICERS DID NOT PURSUE HILDRETH WHEN HE RAN FROM THE ROOM, FOMENKO EXPLAINED THAT THE MILITIA OFFICER IN CHARGE AT THE HOTEL WAS YOUNG AND INEXPERIENCED AND HESITATED TO PURSUE HILDRETH ONCE THE "CANADIAN" IDENTIFIED HIM AS AN "AMERICAN DIPLOMAT". FOMENKO CONCLUDED HIS REPORT BY STRONGLY REQUESTING THAT THE EMBASSY TAKE MEASURES TO ENSURE THAT SIMILAR ACTIVITIES DID NOT OCCUR IN THE FUTURE. HE DID NOT INDICATE THAT HILDRETH WOULD BE THE SUBJECT OF PNG ACTION. (FYI: CORPORAL JON HILDRETH DEPARTED MOSCOW ON ROUTINE RE-ASSIGNMENT TO CANBERRA ON MARCH 8, 1985.)

3. ON THE MORNING OF MARCH 8, 1985, CORPORAL JON HILDRETH WAS AGAIN INTERVIEWED BY THE RSO, THIS TIME WITH SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO THE SOVIET CHARGE THAT HE ASSAULTED A HOTEL EMPLOYEE IN THE RESTROOM OF THE INTOURIST HOTEL. HILDRETH AGAIN AFFIRMED THE ACCURACY OF HIS ORIGINAL STATEMENT AND DENIED THAT HE ASSAULTED ANYONE AT THE HOTEL ON THE NIGHT IN QUESTION. HE WAS THEN OFFERED FULL IMMUNITY FROM DISCIPLINARY ACTION AND GIVEN A FINAL OPPORTUNITY TO CHANGE HIS STORY. HE DID NOT.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 MOSCOW 03170

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FRANKFURT FOR ADS  
LENINGRAD FOR PO AND RSO

E.O. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: ASEC, UR, US  
SUBJECT: ASSAULT ON MARINE CORPORAL JON HILDRETH -- THE

4. BASED UPON CORPORAL HILDRETH'S FIRM DENIAL OF IMPROPER CONDUCT, OUR KNOWLEDGE OF HIS CHARACTER AND PAST PERFORMANCE, AND THE COMMENTS OF EYEWITNESS ROBERT SHALKA, WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO BELIEVE THAT HILDRETH WAS THE SUBJECT OF A PREMEDITATED ASSAULT. CONSEQUENTLY, WE VIEW THE SOVIET COUNTER-CHARGE AS SPURIOUS.

5. WE PLAN NO FURTHER ACTION AT THIS TIME AND WILL AWAIT A SOVIET RESPONSE TO OUR NOTE. HARTMAN  
END OF MESSAGE

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